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TTD to deploy anti-drone system at Tirumala



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Israeli strikes on Gaza kill over 85 people

Allies threaten 'concrete actions' against Israel, including sanctions



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Suryavanshi, Madhwal help Rajasthan beat Chennai

In a nutshell

Four Rohingyas arrested

HYDERABAD: The Rachakonda police arrested four Rohingyas for allegedly obtaining Aadhaar card, PAN card, Voter identity card and other documents fraudulently. The police seized five Aadhaar cards, two PAN cards, five Voter identity cards, driving license, cheque books and other documents from them. The arrested are Mohammed Arman, Mohammed Rumana, Mohammed Nayeem and Mohammed Haris while two others Ayaz and Shoaib Malik are absconding. The four persons had crossed over into India illegally and after staying for some years managed to obtain the documents.

Five die in TN as rocks cave in

Sivaganga (Tamil Nadu): Five people died and two were injured when rocks caved in all of a sudden at a stone quarry site in the district on Tuesday, police said. Expressing shock and grief over the tragic death of five workers at the private stone quarry site in Mallakottai village, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin announced a solatium of Rs four lakh each to the families of the victims and Rs one lakh to the injured undergoing treatment in the hospital from out of the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund. The victims, mostly workers, were trapped under debris at the site in Mallakottai near Singampunari.

India begins diplomatic effort to isolate Pak

FS Misri briefs parliamentary delegations ahead of their foreign tours

PTI
NEW DELHI

As multi-party delegations leave for foreign capitals to convey India's strong stand against Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, their members were briefed by Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on the neighbouring country's role in terror strikes and India's commitment to punish the perpetrators as well as their masterminds.

Members, MPs and former parliamentarians, of three of the seven such delegations were briefed, and they are expected to meet government functionaries, including Ministers, legislators, think tanks and media during their visits to different parts of the world. While India is committed to peace, it will not tolerate any terror attacks on its soil and will hit back as part of its "new normal", Misri told them, according to sources.

In a reference to Pakistan's offer of an independent probe into the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, Misri noted its earlier behaviour of ignoring evidence and doing little when India presented it with facts following other terror at-

YOUTUBE CHANNELS FACE SCRUTINY

CHANDIGARH: An operation was underway to find if more people were involved in espionage against India and several YouTube channels were under scrutiny, a top Haryana official said after five, including a YouTuber, were nabbed from the state for spying. At least 12 people have been nabbed on charges of espionage. Two women -- Haryana resident Jyoti Malhotra, whose YouTube channel and Instagram accounts have 3.77 lakh subscribers and 1.33 lakh followers respectively, and 31-year-old Guzala from Punjab -- were allegedly in touch with Pakistani officials.

tacks, including 26/11 in Mumbai and in Pathankot in 2026, the sources said.

An MP quoted Misri as saying that trusting Pakistan is like trusting a "chor" (thief) to investigate the crime he has committed. JD(U) leader Sanjay Jha, who is leading a delegation to Japan, Singapore, South

Korea, Malaysia and Indonesia, told reporters after the meeting, "Our message to world leaders will be that India has decided 'enough is enough' and that Pakistan has acted like a thief asked to probe his own crime whenever India has in the past trusted its words on acting against terrorism." Shiv Sena leader Shrikant Shinde, who is leading a delegation to the UAE and some African countries, said they will highlight Pakistan's links to terror incidents in India and present evidence linking the country to these horrific crimes against humanity not only in India but also abroad. Former union Minister and Congress leader Salman Khurshid, who is a member of the delegation led by Jha, said the decision to cease military actions was arrived mutually by India and Pakistan, and no other country played a mediator, a rejection of US President Donald Trump's claim.

BJP leader S S Ahluwalia and Jha noted that even Al Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden found a safe hideout in Pakistan before being hunted down by US Navy Seals.

Monsoon to hit Kerala in 4-5 days

NEW DELHI

The southwest monsoon is likely to reach Kerala in the next four to five days, much earlier than the usual date of June 1, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Tuesday.

The weather department had earlier forecast that the monsoon would onset over Kerala by May 27. If the monsoon arrives in Kerala as expected, it will be the earliest onset over the Indian mainland since 2009, when it began on May 23, according to IMD data.

"Conditions are likely to become favourable for monsoon onset over Kerala during next 4-5 days," the IMD said in an update on Tuesday afternoon.

Normally, the southwest monsoon makes its onset over Kerala by June 1 and covers the entire country by July 8. It starts retreating from northwest India around September 17 and withdraws completely by October 15.

The monsoon had set in over the southern State on May 30 last year; June 8 in 2023; May 29 in 2022; June 3

in 2021; June 1 in 2020; June 8 in 2019; and May 29 in 2018.

The IMD had in April forecast above-normal cumulative rainfall in the 2025 monsoon season, ruling out the possibility of El Niño conditions, which are associated with below-normal rainfall in the Indian sub-continent.

According to the IMD, rainfall between 96 per cent and 104 per cent of the 50-year average of 87 cm is considered 'normal'.

Rainfall less than 90 per cent of the long-period aver-

age is considered 'deficient'; between 90 per cent and 95 per cent is 'below normal'; between 105 per cent and 110 per cent is 'above normal'; and more than 110 per cent is considered 'excess' precipitation.

The monsoon is crucial for India's agriculture sector, which supports the livelihood of about 42.3 per cent of the population and contributes 18.2 per cent to the country's GDP. It is also vital for replenishing reservoirs critical for drinking water and power generation across the country. **PTI**

Indian Bison hit by goods train dies

STATE BUREAU
Kothagudem

A male Indian bison, a notified Schedule-I species, died after it was hit by a goods train when crossing a railway track in Aswapuram forest range in the district.

During the enquiry, it was found that the accident was caused by a goods train carrying coal from SCCL mines in Manugur. Veterinary assistant surgeon Rubina Farheen conducted the post-mortem to confirm the cause of death in the presence of forest, veterinary and railway officials.

Railways and SCCL officials were asked to take necessary precautions and technology interventions to avoid such incidents in the future. The public was requested to alert the Forest Department in any such case of wildlife movement for mitigating human and wildlife conflict, the DFO said.

Tigress poached, 5 arrested

STATE BUREAU
Kumram Bheem Asifabad

What began as the discovery of the carcass of an unidentified wild animal that was electrocuted is slowly turning out to be a major expose of the audacious manner in which a well-organised, expert gang of poachers are targeting

tigers at their will right from under the nose of the Telangana Forest Department.

As on Tuesday, the latest poaching incident has seen five poachers being detained with Forest officials confirming that a gang of at least 20 notorious poachers were involved in the killing of tigress K8 before skinning it and pulling out the nails

and other valuable parts that command high prices in the illegal wildlife market.

The disturbing episode, which is turning out to be a major embarrassment for the Forest Department, began unfolding with discovery of carcass of a wild animal at Yellur of Kumram Bheem Asifabad district last Thursday. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Man triumphs over Covid, cardiac arrests to ace IFS



Telgote Devanand Suresh with Telangana Additional DGP (L&O) Mahesh M Bhagwat.

YUVRAJ AKULA
Hyderabad

After battling Covid-19 for around four months in the intensive care unit (ICU), which left him with 80 per cent lung damage, along the way two cardiac arrests, Telgote Devanand emerged from the jaws of death to ace the Indian Forest Service Examination, 2024.

Recovering from a long Covid-19 battle and defying all odds, Devanand, who hails from Maharashtra, secured the 112th rank in the

Indian Forest Service Examination, 2024, results declared by the union Public Service Commission on Monday.

The 29-year-old's achievement is no ordinary feat. In 2021, Devanand was in Delhi to appear for the UPSC Civil Services interview for the second time. However, fate took a cruel turn. He contracted Covid-19 while on the way back to hometown in Akola as his interview that was scheduled for May 5, 2021, was rescheduled due to the pan-

dem.

Devanand's initial CT score for the infection turned out to be 10, while he tested negative in the RTPCR report, a test conducted to detect coronavirus. As the days passed with initial treatment in Akola, his CT score was recorded 20/25, showing an alarming rate of infection spread in his lung.

With the assistance of Telangana Additional DGP (L&O) Mahesh M Bhagwat, the 29-year-old was airlifted to KIMS Hospital, Begum-

pet, where he was admitted to ICU for around four months and put on ECMO (Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation), a therapy used to treat people with life-threatening heart and lung conditions.

While undergoing treatment for coronavirus infection, the Civils aspirant received another setback as he suffered cardiac arrest not just once but twice.

"Doctors intervened at the right time and managed the cardiac arrests." **(SEE PAGE 2)**



Vehicles move through a waterlogged road after heavy rains in Bengaluru on Tuesday. — Photo: PTI

Waqf Act: Need strong case for relief, SC to petitioners

NEW DELHI

Underscoring the "presumption of constitutionality in favour of law", the Supreme Court on Tuesday said petitioners challenging the Waqf law needed a "strong and glaring" case for interim relief.

A bench comprising Chief Justice BR Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih commenced the hearing on a batch of pleas challenging the validity of Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 for passing interim orders on three issues, including the power to denotify properties declared as "waqf by courts, waqf-by-

user or waqf by deed". "There is a presumption of constitutionality in favour of every statute. For interim relief, you have to make out a very strong and glaring case. Otherwise, presumption of constitutionality will be there," the CJ said when senior advocate Kapil Sibal, leading the charge against the legislation, began his submissions.

Sibal described the law as a "complete departure from historical legal and constitutional principles" and a means to "capture waqf through a non-judicial process". Centre's Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had urged the bench to confine

the hearing on pleas to three issues. One of the issues is the power to denotify properties declared as waqf by courts, waqf-by-user or waqf by deed.

The second issue relates to the composition of State waqf boards and the Central Waqf Council, where they contend only Muslims should operate except ex-officio members whereas the last one is over the provision stipulating a waqf property won't be treated as a waqf when the collector conducts an inquiry to ascertain if the property is government land.

Mehta's submission was vehemently opposed by

senior advocates Sibal and Abhishek M Singhvi, appearing for those challenging the provisions of the 2025 law, that there cannot be any piecemeal hearing.

"This is a case about the systematic capture of waqf properties. The government cannot dictate what issues can be raised," Sibal said. Sibal said the amended law enables a systematic expropriation of waqf properties through executive means, bypassing due judicial process and moreover, waqf properties can become non-waqf ones by an executive order denying right to access courts. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Four killed, 17 injured in road accident

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Four persons died and at least 17 others injured after a private bus carrying a marriage party went out of control and crashed into a truck at Rangapur village in Pargi mandal of Vikarabad district on Tuesday. The victims were identified as Balamma (60), Sandeep (26), Mallesh (30) and Ashwini (30), all relatives from different villages in Shabad mandal.

According to the police, the incident occurred when the private bus was which was carrying about 50 persons was proceeding from Pargi towards Shabad. The victims who had attended a wedding in Pargi on May 16 were returning after dinner at the bride's residence when the accident took place.

Hard disks stolen from Raj Bhavan

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

A theft of hard disks was reported at the high security Raj Bhavan, the official residence of the Telangana Governor, in the city, creating a stir.

Four hard disks were stolen from the Sudharma Bhavan in Raj Bhavan. The Raj Bhavan officials, who learnt about it after recently examining the CCTV footage on the premises, lodged a complaint with the Punjagutta police. The police immediately registered a case and investigating.

Srinivas (45), a suspended IT hardware engineer of Raj Bhavan, who was reportedly involved in the theft was arrested.

The Hyderabad Police on Tuesday clarified that the hard disks contained no

confidential or important files.

The police said that Srinivas had allegedly morphed the photos of a woman contract worker in the Raj Bhavan and sent it to her phone. Based on the woman's complaint, the Punjagutta police arrested Srinivas (45) on May 12. He was subsequently released on bail. Following the incident, the Raj Bhavan authorities had placed him under suspension.

However, Srinivas again came to Raj Bhavan and took away the hard disks of the desktop he was using, which had the morphed photos of the woman.

Based on the complaint from Raj Bhavan IT Manager on May 14, the Punjagutta police had booked another case against Srinivas for stealing hard disks.

KLIS issue: Ghose panel summons KCR, Harish, Eatala

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

The Justice PC Ghose Commission has issued notices to former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao as part of the ongoing inquiry into the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. Along with the BRS president, former minister T Harish Rao and BJP MP Eatala Rajender have also been summoned.

Dates

Setting specific dates for their appearance, the Commission wanted the former Chief Minister to appear on June 5, while Harish Rao and Rajender were summoned on June 6 and June 9 respectively.

The Telangana government had constituted the commission to investigate alleged irregularities in the construction of the Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages. Justice PC Ghose, a former High Court judge, has been heading the inquiry since its formation in March 2024.

Tenure extended

Over the last year, the commission has examined senior irrigation officials, engineers, and representatives from construction companies involved in the project.

The tenure of the Commission was extended on Monday by two months till July 31.